GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2899
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2002
ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE
MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Railways are bringing in thousands of illegal wild birds to the cities for sale;

(b) if so, the number of cases of confiscation that have taken place of wild birds brought into Delhi/Mumbai by the Railways; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) There are no such reports with the Government. However, 3 cases of confiscation have been reported from Mumbai during last three years.

(c) The steps taken in this regard include:

(i) Ministry of Railway has been requested to not to accept any wild animal/ bird or their products for transportation without a no objection certificate from the designated officers for the purpose.

(ii) Ministry of Railway has instructed all its Zonal Offices to ensure strict compliance of the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Transport of Animals (Amendment) Rules, 2001.

(iii) Strict vigil is maintained by the officials of State Wildlife Wing and Regional Offices of the Ministry of Environment and Forests along with police and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), at sensitive spots including railway stations against illegal trade in wildlife and its products.